



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment and Response consisting of three (3) pages for the application Serial No. 09/522,486 of inventor, CLAUDE TIHON, filed March 10, 2000, for "FEMALE INCONTINENCE PREVENTION DEVICE" was deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment (PATs), Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on Monday, January 08, 2001.

Anna Lemke

On Behalf of Kevin W. Cyr

3764

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Claude Tihon Attorney Docket: 20000018.ORI
Serial No. : 09/522,486 Group Art Unit: 3764
Filed : March 10, 2000 Examiner: Brown, M.
For : FEMALE INCONTINENCE PREVENTION DEVICE

#3/a
on
1/22/01

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2000, please enter the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓
Please amend the claims as follows:

14. (Amended) The method, as in Claim 13, (12, further comprising providing a stylet and) wherein the stylet is inserted into the lumen in the apparatus to render the retention structure substantially rectilinear.

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REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2000. Claims 1 to 14 are pending. Claim 14 has been amended. Support for the amendment can be found generally throughout the specification and figures.

Claim 14 has been amended to depend from Claim 13.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,738,667 to Galloway (the Galloway patent). In part, Examiner contends that the Galloway patent discloses an apparatus comprising a shaft and a retention structure non-concentrically disposed about the longitudinal axis of the shaft in Figures 3A and 3B. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection of the claims.